

August 6, 2009

Meeting began at 8:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Present: Bill Muse, Mayor; Gladys LeFevre, Dennis Bertucci, Wendell Roundy, Council Members; Judi Davis, Clerk; Mark McIff, Attorney.

Absent: Randy Ripplinger, Council Member.

Public Present: Ashley Coombs, Dave Mock, Eddie Young, Steve Cox, Susan Heaton, Matt Cochran and Constance Lynn, Randy Catmull, Judy Drain, Sam Stout, Peg Smith, Sue Fearon, Mark Austin, Scott Brodie, Lisa Varga, Loch Wade.

Gladys made a motion to approve the minutes of July 2 and July 8 as presented. Dennis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Sam discussed the proposed realignment of the section of road in front of his home. He will bear all the cost but the surfacing. There has been some concern about the grade going down the hill toward the Haws' home. The grade is currently 10%. After the realignment, he will return the road to a 10% grade. The road at the Haws' is 85 feet wide, and it is 87' wide at the west end. Two feet of fill will be required at the center line of the proposed new intersection. The new road would be the same width (14-16 feet) as the current roadway, but it was mapped at 20 feet. The purpose of the proposed realignment is to slow traffic. The curve is hazardous because it's blind due to obstructions. Whether realigned or not, the willows have to be cut. Some years ago the School District labeled the road at the curve hazardous and a public safety issue. There haven't been any accidents there yet, and if the willows are removed, it would help with the safety. The Town will pay for the chip sealing. Bill is in favor of cutting the willows and realigning the road but is open to discussion.

Sam recommends a 60' foot right-of-way the full length of B Street, a change from the present status of 60' from the western end to Second East, then 87.5' from Second East to 85.9' at its eastern end. Wendell thinks that, if the real issue is safety, the willows would have been cut by now. (Jack Pollock came.) Sue suggested that we consider making the road from Veda's (the Burr Trail) to Doyle's (C Street and First East) a one-way road and cut the willows to fix the visibility problem. Dave wondered about putting in an equestrian path. Dennis suggested that we clear the willows and see how it goes before making a decision. (Don Montoya came.) That would be the least expensive way to start fixing the problem. If it solves the problem, we may not need to consider realigning the road.

Loch suggested that, if Sam is going to bear the entire cost (except surfacing, which Sam pointed out will be chip sealed sooner or later, anyway), the Town's only concern is

whether they are willing to pay for the chip sealing. Randy suggested that we have Jack Lyman put the stakes in the ground to show just where it will be so people can see it and so their concerns will be alleviated. Jack doesn't see a problem with Sam wanting to have the use of the land which he owns that is under the current road. Dave recommended that we keep in mind that we would be setting a precedent. Gladys suggested that we cut the willows and wait for the committee to bring the list of hazards to us before we go forward. Sam instructed us not to cut the willows on his property. (Katie Austin came.) Dennis asked him if he would show us where his line is, to which Sam responded that we should have Jack survey it.

Bill asked if, since we don't have the votes to approve the realignment tonight, we could cut the willows to eliminate the immediate problem, then reconsider the realignment later. (Mark McIff came.) Sam agreed, but asked us to be sure not to cut his trees which are close to the line. Bill stated that, if we hired Sam to cut the willows, he would make sure it was done right. Loch suggested that, in the meantime, we put in two stop signs. He's had at least five near misses on that corner and thinks Sam has a good idea. Sue Fearon agreed with the stop sign suggestion and felt it would change people's driving habits. Dennis feels that discussing it is good so people can voice their opinions. Judy suggested that we set a date to make a decision. Sam isn't able to cut the willows now, so Wendell will talk to Doran Lyman about brush hogging the willows. Sam should be there and will be if he knows when it will happen. Dennis made a motion that we cut the willows on the curve with Sam's guidance and that we install two stop signs and two stop ahead signs with the placement to be determined after the willows are cut. Gladys seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Gladys suggested we get advice from Deputy Gardner or Farlan on guidelines for placement of the signs.

Sue Fearon reported on the initial meeting of the Escalante River Watershed Working Group and extended an invitation to the Council to appoint someone in the town to become a member of this group. There is a need to fight noxious, invasive species in the watershed, and this group is working to create a systematic approach to eradicating especially Russian Olive and Salt Cedar, particularly along the Escalante River, its drainages, and on private land where the owners are agreeable to such a program. Loch asked who is paying for it. Sue said they are looking seriously for a grant, and the prospects look positive. Mark stated that the Escalante River Drainage has been identified as the most likely location to succeed in the eradication of these species. Loch volunteered to represent the town, and Gladys nominated John (Loch) Wade to be our representative on the Escalante River Watershed Working Group. Dennis seconded the nomination, and the vote was unanimous.

There are concerns about the amount of equipment on a parcel owned by James and Judy Drain which is zoned agricultural. Equipment that appears to be business in nature (such

as trucks, a backhoe, etc.) rather than recreational may be a problem. Mark Austin stated that he had the same problem some years ago and was required by the town to solve it. If the Drains need a place to store their business equipment, Mark is willing to work with them by letting them store it at his legal lot. He wants to see everyone treated the same. Judy said that, as soon as her husband is back in town, she will have him come and talk to the mayor. Loch suggested that maybe we should put commercial zoning along the highway. Mark Austin replied that, while it may be logical to make all of Highway 12 frontage commercial, a commercial strip is not aesthetic. His property doesn't have the visual impact that it would have right on the highway. Judy stated that the truck is their storage right now—everything that was in their garage is in it. If Judy and Bill will talk to Mark about storing their extra equipment (not the truck/garage, which could be the one piece of allowed equipment), the problem could be solved. We're glad to have them as part of the community.

The state has mandated that municipalities establish a policy and procedure for the approval of written minutes of meetings of public bodies. Gladys made a motion we adopt Ordinance 62 (which meets that requirement.) Dennis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Peg would like guidance from the Town Council on a re-survey of the town as a basis for changes in the General Plan. The last survey was taken in 2004. Do we want the Planning Commission to pursue the survey or does the Council want to do it? The County planner helped with the survey. There needs to be clarification on who will receive the survey. The Council directed the Planning Commission to proceed with the survey.

Katie asked the Council for a donation to the horse 4-H group. Eleven youth are participating, making it the largest 4-H group in the county. Gladys made a motion we donate \$50. Bill thought we donated \$100 last year and suggested we do the same this year. Dennis made a motion we donate \$100. Wendell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The roads in Lower Boulder have been fixed. The surface is still good, so they won't need to be chip sealed this year. The McCance road excavation deposit will be forfeited since the town paid to fix their cut in the road. The landfill needs to be burned. Dennis will push the Fire Department to get it done.

Farlan donated time to push some trees at the cemetery and will fix the road on the north. We need to gravel the center road. Mark offered to let Farlan put the extra trees at his place, where they can then be cut for firewood. Farlan will donate his labor if we want to replace the front (east) and south side fences. Gladys would like community input on

what kind of fence would be best and asked if we can get gravel from the county.

The Van Quill's have lodged a complaint to the mayor about a fence that Camille Hall has had built down the middle of the mapped but undeveloped road between their lots (First East.) They think she should have put it on their own property line. We will have our attorney do some research and will do whatever is legal.

Gladys made a motion the meeting adjourn. Dennis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

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Minutes prepared by Judith Davis, Town Clerk